



Black Bear Management Guideline





GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK


BLACK BEAR MANAGEMENT GUIDELINE

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

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I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this guideline is to serve as an advisory outline to the management of visitors, employees, concessionaires and bears in a manner that allows wild bears to live naturally and provide for safe visitor use by minimizing the conflicts between people and bears. This document is intended to help direct and focus efforts required in the actual implementation of bear management in Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GRSM or Park). Outside the Park boundary, local residents, workers and area visitors can also have a profound effect on bears through the misplacement of human food, garbage, bird food, pet food and other items that attract bears. Therefore, another purpose of this guideline is to provide recommendations to gateway community visitors, residents, workers and political leaders as to the proper control of foods that attract bears. Fewer conflicts between people and bears outside the Park will mean a safer, more natural experience for visitors and residents in the gateway communities.

There are three general goals for the black bear management program in GRSM:

- 1) Educate Park employees, cooperators, concessionaires, visitors and neighbors about their responsibilities in bear habitat and bear biology and behavior.
- 2) Protect and preserve wild bears by incorporating bear-proof solid waste disposal systems, food storage devices and food storage regulations.
- 3) Develop and improve procedures and training materials for nuisance bear management in wilderness areas.

II. BACKGROUND

Great Smoky Mountains National Park provides refuge for a significant portion of the black bear (*Ursus americanus*) population in the Southern Appalachians. In recent years, the black bear population in the Southern Appalachians has increased and expanded. The Park's bear monitoring program supports this increase. Estimates of the black bear population in GRSM have increased from 500 to 700 bears (Pelton and Marcum 1975, McLean 1991) to

roughly 2000 bears (Pelton et al. 2000, Dr. Frank van Manen personal commun. 2002).

Approximately 10 million people visit GRSM annually, creating a situation for human/bear encounters. Unfortunately, although the Park visitor is a temporary short-term user, his behavior can have long-term impacts on bears. Generally, visitors are naïve regarding the biology of black bears (Burghardt et al. 1972, Pelton et al. 1976, Petko-Seus and Pelton 1984). Some visitors intentionally feed bears despite prominently displayed regulations prohibiting the feeding of wildlife (Singer and Bratton 1977, Tate 1983). Other visitors unintentionally feed bears by not following food storage regulations. Some visitors' desire to see, photograph or even touch a bear apparently overshadows their understanding of Park regulations or the potential danger of bears.

The opportunistic behavior of bears also contributes to the number of interactions between bears and visitors. Black bears are highly mobile, curious, intelligent and very adaptable animals (Pelton 1982). The omnivorous food habits of bears allow them to feed on a variety of food items. Given the opportunity, bears will exploit human food sources at landfills, garbage cans, campgrounds or picnic areas and move long distances to use them (Jonkel and Cowan 1971). Bears also learn to associate food with people, coolers, backpacks, tents, trailers and vehicles and may become bold in their attempts to obtain it (Tate 1983). Once bears learn these associations and become food conditioned, it is difficult to correct this behavior.

III. INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

1. The Division of Resource Education, in consultation with other divisions, should set priorities for the development of informational materials and programs that address bear management. These items may include posters, articles in the Park newspaper, GRSM web page, bulletin board exhibits, trunks, fliers, signs, brochures, slide or video programs and radio messages for the Park's Travelers' Information Stations. Materials should discuss bear encounters, management efforts and results, visitor conduct, camping procedures, proper food storage, litter disposal, safety, etc.

2. The Public Affairs Office, Division of Resource Education and the Wildlife Section will work with the media to disseminate messages regarding bears. These may include news releases, magazine articles, radio and television interviews, segments on local cable TV channels, etc. Visual, taped or written information will also be provided to the media when possible.
3. The Resource Education Division will present information on black bear life history, habitat, bear behavior, visitor conduct and safety, reporting bear incidents and other information as appropriate. This information will be included at regular interpretive programs for visitors and local community groups and formal environmental education programs for Parks-as-Classroom school groups. Bear information should also be provided to visitors at visitor centers, information stations, ranger stations and the GRSM web page.
4. Bear information will be included with replies to inquiries concerning camping and backcountry hiking.
5. Resource Education and the Resource & Visitor Protection Divisions will post bear information at picnic areas, trailheads, on bulletin boards and at other suitable locations frequented by the public, as necessary.
6. The Resource & Visitor Protection Division will provide information to backcountry campers during the reservation process. Included should be information on bear behavior, visitor conduct, safety, utilization of foods that reduce odors, food storage/suspension requirements, garbage/waste disposal, bear warnings and reporting of bear incidents. Bear information at backcountry permit stations will be disseminated using posters, fliers, and information on the backcountry permit.
7. The Resource & Visitor Protection Division will provide bear information to visitors camping in Park campgrounds from April through November. Signs should be posted in campgrounds stating the area is bear habitat and that food storage regulations are strictly enforced. Rangers and volunteers should make roving contacts to ensure that visitors are

aware of food storage requirements and bear safety information. Visitors should be advised to immediately report all bear incidents to the nearest ranger station or visitor center.

8. All employees, volunteers, cooperators and concessionaires should be aware of the bear management guidelines. Division Chiefs should ensure that all employees, volunteers, cooperators and concessionaires understand their roles and responsibilities as they relate to the bear management guideline.
9. Wildlife staff will present bear information programs that provide updates on population surveys and trends, bear incident summaries, current management efforts, etc., during employee training/orientation or other opportunities when necessary or requested.
10. The Public Affairs Office, Resource Education and Wildlife Section will work with the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission and neighboring communities to disseminate information to Park neighbors, residents and visitors regarding bear conservation and management issues including food storage, intentional feeding, improperly secured garbage and illegal hunting activity. The Chamber of Commerce newsletter, cable television, magazines, public presentations and other forms of community outreach should be utilized.
11. Resource Education and the Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont should integrate information about bears into educational programs. School programs, lesson plans and teacher workshops/in-service training opportunities about bears should be provided whenever possible.

IV. SANITATION AND GARBAGE DISPOSAL

1. No permanent garbage disposal sites will be permitted inside the Park.
2. All outdoor garbage cans and dumpsters will have bear/animal resistant lids. Removable liners should be used in garbage cans and, if feasible, secured in a manner to prevent excess liner material from being exposed after the lid is in place.

3. Garbage collection will be scheduled to ensure that containers are not overfilled and left overnight. If garbage containers become overfilled, Maintenance should secure all excess material in another container before dark. Maintenance should also remove all garbage/food (including aluminum foil) from grills in picnic areas.
4. The Maintenance Division should insure that all dumpsters and/or trash cans work properly. Employees, volunteers, cooperators and concessionaires should immediately report damaged or nonfunctional dumpsters or trashcans to Maintenance and complete a work order (Form 10-214) to have them repaired. Damaged or broken dumpsters or trash cans should immediately be repaired, replaced or removed from the site.
5. The Cades Cove, Chimney Tops and Collins Creek picnic areas close at 8:00pm from May 1 through August 31 and at official sunset the remainder of the year. This 8:00pm closure during summer assures sufficient daylight to allow Maintenance to collect and properly dispose of all food and garbage before dark. The Resource & Visitor Protection Division will be responsible for closing gates at the appropriate times and ensuring that visitors have vacated the area.
6. Concessionaires at LeConte lodge will incinerate garbage or pack it out by the most practical means available at intervals that will avoid odor, sanitation and storage problems. Garbage should be held indoors in metal containers with plastic liners sealed to reduce odors.
7. Information on proper disposal of garbage will be available for distribution to Park residents, live-in permittees, lessees and concession operators.
8. Food storage devices (boxes, cables, etc.) will be installed at appropriate areas as funding permits. Visitors without adequate food storage containers (i.e., vehicle) must use such devices when available. The Wildlife Section will insure that all food storage cables work properly. Damaged or nonfunctional food storage cables will be reported immediately to the Wildlife Section and repaired as soon as possible.

V. ENFORCEMENT

1. Resource & Visitor Protection rangers should enforce regulations pertaining to bear-feeding, improper food storage, animal harassment and other violations as they relate to bears, when necessary.
2. Resource & Visitor Protection rangers will patrol to ensure that food is properly stored and that visitors understand and comply with food storage regulations. Food and food containers left outside hard-sided vehicles, camper units constructed of solid, non-pliable material or not properly suspended may be confiscated.
3. Garbage disposal regulations will be enforced. When closing picnic areas, rangers should ensure that visitors dispose of food remains in animal-resistant containers. Backcountry campers are expected to carry plastic or similar types of trash bags to aid in compliance with the "pack-in/pack-out" rule. Campers should be instructed not to burn or bury trash or dispose of it in pit toilets, fire rings, shelters, etc.
4. If necessary, employees from other divisions or volunteers should be designated to assist in visitor management during bear and other wildlife encounters (i.e., bear, deer or elk jams, etc.).

VI. MANAGEMENT/CONTROL ACTIONS

1. As determined by the District Rangers or Wildlife Biologists, using their best judgement based on education, experience and training, bears that possess a habituated/food conditioned behavior (McCullough 1982), exhibit habituated/food conditioned tendencies or are deemed necessary for research or management programs will be evaluated for appropriate management actions.
2. District Rangers should make recommendations to the Wildlife Biologist regarding management of bears in their districts, including the backcountry. The recommendations should be based on an evaluation of current and previous reports and on particular incident circumstances within the context of the fundamental purposes of the Park. Concurrence

should be obtained from the Wildlife Biologist prior to implementing a management action.

3. Possible management alternatives for bears described in VI. 1. include:
 - a. Monitoring.
 - b. Warning signs.
 - c. Area closure.
 - d. Aversive conditioning.
 - e. Relocation.
 - f. Euthanasia.
4. If an area is closed due to bear activity, signs (Appendix A) and notices are to be posted at the appropriate localities. On the day of a closure, visitors will be advised to leave the area. The Communications Center will be notified on the date an area closes and reopens. Resource Management will be responsible for providing appropriate closure and warning signs (Appendix A). The District Ranger and the Wildlife Biologist will be responsible for sign placement and removal, contacting visitors at the site and informing the Communications Center. Areas closed because of bear activity will be monitored for recurring bear activity. The decision to reopen a closed area should be made by the District Ranger in consultation with the Wildlife Biologist.
5. The decision to conduct aversive conditioning such as capture, work-up and release on site (Brady and Maehr 1982, Wooding et al. 1988, Shull 1994, Clark 1999, Clark et al. 2002), rubber bullets, etc., will be made by the Wildlife Biologist.
6. The decision to relocate a captured bear will be made by the Wildlife Biologist. Black bears have incredible homing instincts (Harger 1970, Beeman and Pelton 1976, Massopust and Anderson 1984, Rogers 1986b, 1987) and, therefore, when possible, should be moved long distances from the capture site (Sauer et al. 1969, Beeman and Pelton 1976, Alt et al. 1977, Singer and Bratton 1977, McArthur 1981, Fies et al. 1986, Rogers 1986a, Stiver 1991). Guidelines and procedures for bears relocated outside the Park will be established through General Agreements with the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and the North Carolina

Wildlife Resources Commission (Appendix B).

7. The decision to euthanize a bear will be made by the Superintendent's Office after consultation with the Chief Ranger, the Chief of Resource Management and Science and the Wildlife Biologist, unless there is a public safety issue, a need to promptly or quickly euthanize an animal with acute injuries, or any unforeseen reasons. Bears euthanized other than by decision of the Superintendent's Office should be immediately reported to the Superintendent, Chief Ranger and Wildlife Biologist. Bears should be euthanized according to the American Veterinary Medical Association euthanasia guidelines (Beaver et al. 2001).
8. After consulting with the Wildlife Biologist, District Rangers and other authorized wildlife personnel, will be responsible for conducting bear management actions. If the Wildlife Biologist, designee or supervisor cannot be contacted, the decision to initiate a management action should be made by the District Ranger or designated person. Wildlife personnel in consultation with the Wildlife Biologist may independently conduct bear management actions.
9. Personnel responsible for bear management should be trained in physical and chemical capture methods, proper handling techniques and chemical accountability requirements. These employees should complete training as required by NPS-77 (National Park Service 1991), adhere to the Park's chemical immobilization guidelines and be authorized by the Supervisory Wildlife Biologist.
10. Methods for capturing bears may include:
 - A. Trapping.
 1. Culvert traps. Culvert traps equipped with cub doors should be utilized, if available, when capturing females with cubs.
 2. Aldrich snares (Aldrich Animal Trap Co., Clallam Bay, WA). Snares should be modified with a hood spring to reduce the likelihood of injury (Johnson and Pelton 1980).
 3. Live traps. Hog traps, Tomahawk mammal traps, etc. may be used when

capturing cubs or other small bears.

B. Chemical Immobilization. Personnel authorized to chemically immobilize bears should follow procedures for capturing/handling black bears as outlined in the Park's chemical immobilization guidelines. Personnel authorized to chemically immobilize bears are responsible for the welfare and ethical treatment of the bears and should monitor all activities to ensure the safety of the visitor, themselves and the animal.

C. Other. Some other options for capturing cubs may include hand, nets, catch poles, etc.

11. Unless there is a threat to human life or under other unforeseen reasons, the Wildlife Biologist, in consultation with the Park's consulting veterinarian, will determine the disposition of injured or sick bears. Possible alternatives include release of the animal, placement in an authorized rehabilitation facility (e.g., The Appalachian Bear Center (ABC)) for later release (Clark 1999) or euthanasia.
12. The Wildlife Biologist should determine the disposition of healthy orphaned cubs or yearlings. Possible alternatives include release of the animal, placement in artificial or selected den sites (Jonkel et al. 1980), reintroduction with the natural mother (Seibert et al. 1997), placement in an authorized rehabilitation facility (e.g., ABC) for later release (Alt and Beecham 1984, Clark 1999), adoption by a foster mother (Clarke et al. 1980, Alt and Beecham 1984, Carney and Vaughan 1987) or euthanasia.

VII. REPORTING/COMMUNICATION, REPORTS AND RECORDS

1. The Communications Center should be notified **immediately** regarding a bear incident. The Communications Center should then immediately notify appropriate ranger and wildlife personnel.
2. Employees, cooperators, concessionaires, etc. should submit a complete Bear Management Report Form (Appendix C) for all bear-related incidents, including visitor reported incidents

and fax it to the Wildlife Biologist at (865) 430-0341. The original form should be routed through supervisors to the Wildlife Biologist. The form will be available from the Wildlife Biologist and be posted on the Park's "common or U-drive."

3. The following are examples of bear-related incidents that should be reported:
 - a. Significant Observation: A bear in a developed area (day or night) such as a picnic area, backcountry campsite, etc.; a bear harassing visitors along the trail; a sick or injured bear; unusual observations (e.g., female with 5 cubs, ear-tagged bear, etc.); or a dumpster tipped over in picnic areas. A report does not have to be completed for observations of "normal" bear behavior of a wild bear (e.g., bears feeding on berries along the trail).
 - b. Incidents: Includes property damage, personal injury, improper food storage, harassing, hunting/trapping, feeding or other related activities. The estimated amount of property damage should be recorded for each incident.
 - c. Management Actions: Includes breaking up "bear jams," capturing bears, capture attempts, setting traps, closing campsites, monitoring, posting signs or administering negative stimulus. Resource Management personnel should also complete a biological data form for bears that are captured and handled (Appendix D).
4. An Incident Record, Form 10-343, also should be completed for incidents involving major property damage or personal injury (e.g., injuries requiring medical treatment, property damage exceeding \$1,000).
5. Visitors should be instructed to **immediately** report all bear incidents to a Park Ranger who in turn will contact Park Communications.
6. Resource Management will maintain records and information of bear management activities and inform the Communications Center and others as appropriate.

VIII. PROGRAM EVALUATION

1. Divisions Chiefs will coordinate the involvement of their staff in the Park's bear

management program.

2. The Wildlife Biologist should periodically review the involvement of each division in the bear management program and make any recommended improvements through the Chief of Resource Management and Science.
3. Representatives from all Park divisions should meet annually to review the bear management program. The Wildlife Biologist will be responsible for organizing this meeting and reporting the outcome to the Superintendent through the Chief Ranger and Chief of Resource Management and Science.

IX. RESEARCH AND MONITORING

1. Research relating to bears will be conducted, as funding is available. Research opportunities for cooperators should be encouraged with financial, logistical and data support, whenever possible. Possible future research topics/projects may include population estimation techniques, animal-resistant containers and food storage devices, population dynamics, disposition of relocated nuisance bears, aversive conditioning techniques, impacts of adjacent land use practices on bear population dynamics, dispersal, habitat suitability utilizing the Geographical Information System or protocols for rehabilitating orphaned cubs and injured bears.
2. As funding allows, the Resource Management and Science Division will conduct an annual bait-station population index to determine relative density, distribution and activities of black bears in the Park (Johnson 1982). A hard mast survey will be conducted to determine the availability of fall foods (e.g., acorns) for bears (Whitehead 1969, Wentworth 1989). Both projects are part of an ongoing cooperative effort to monitor relative trends in the black bear population in the Southern Appalachian Region and are also part of the Park's long-term Inventory and Monitoring Program.

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APPENDIXES

APPENDIX A



NOTICE

THIS AREA IS

CLOSED

**VISITORS ARE PROHIBITED
BEYOND THIS POINT DUE TO
BEAR ACTIVITY**

**RECENT INCIDENTS OF BEAR(S) THREATENING
VISITORS HAVE OCCURRED IN THIS AREA**

Unlawful Removal of This Sign May Result in Injury to Others.



**GARBAGE
KILLS BEARS.**

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK



NOTICE

**CAMPSITE # _____
IS**

CLOSED

**DUE TO
AGGRESSIVE BEAR
ACTIVITY**

Unlawful Removal of This Sign May Result in Injury to Others.



**GARBAGE
KILLS BEARS.**

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK



NOTICE

THIS CAMPSITE IS
CLOSED
DUE TO AGGRESSIVE
BEAR ACTIVITY

Unlawful Removal of This Sign May Result in Injury to Others.



**GARBAGE
KILLS BEARS.**

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK



DANGER!

**BEARS
ARE ACTIVE IN THIS
AREA**

**DO NOT APPROACH THEM!
ATTACKS ON HUMANS HAVE
OCCURRED INFLICTING
SERIOUS INJURIES AND
DEATH**

Unlawful Removal of This Sign May Result in Injury to Others.



**GARBAGE
KILLS BEARS.**

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

APPENDIX B

GENERAL AGREEMENT

between

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

and

CHEROKEE NATIONAL FOREST
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SYSTEM

and

TENNESSEE WILDLIFE RESOURCES AGENCY
STATE OF TENNESSEE

This AGREEMENT shall be known as a COOPERATIVE BEAR MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT between GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, hereinafter referred to as the PARK, the CHEROKEE NATIONAL FOREST, United States Department of Agriculture, hereinafter referred to as the FS, and the TENNESSEE WILDLIFE RESOURCES AGENCY, State of Tennessee, hereinafter referred to as TWRA.

I. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this agreement is to provide for mutual aid and assistance between the three agencies in the management of bears on lands under their administration, respectively, and to define and set forth the responsibilities and cooperative actions of the three agencies necessary to accomplish the following objectives successfully:

1. Provide managed control of the black bear (Ursus americanus) in the PARK and on TWRA/FS managed lands for the purpose of managing, protecting, preserving and conserving black bears in Tennessee.

2. In furtherance of objective number one, selected bears that possess a habituated/food conditioned

behavior, exhibit habituated/food conditioned tendencies or those deemed necessary for research or management programs will be evaluated for appropriate management actions. Management of these bears (i.e., additional monitoring, aversive conditioning, relocation, euthanasia, etc.) will be based on an evaluation of known animal behavior and related information.

3. Each agency will determine bear relocation sites in their respective areas. The annual cooperative meeting between FS and TWRA will provide a forum for discussion and agreement on release locations for the upcoming year. These locations may be adjusted as needed throughout the year.

IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED THAT:

The PARK has full responsibility for bear management within the PARK. Nothing in this agreement shall be construed as obligating TWRA or FS to provide personnel or to expend funds other than as may be authorized by the TWRA director or FS supervisor whose decision in these respects shall be final.

TWRA has full responsibility for bear management within TWRA/FS managed lands. Nothing in this agreement shall be construed as obligating the PARK or FS to provide personnel or to expend funds other than as may be authorized by the PARK superintendent or FS supervisor representatives whose decisions in these respects shall be final.

All agencies will cooperatively address problems and long term solutions associated with nuisance bears in areas with mutual interest.

All agencies will cooperate in a public information effort to assure responsible use and appreciation of the resource by the public.

AUTHORITY

Park: Whereas the Act of August 25, 1916, 39 Stat 535 and amendments thereto, 16 U.S.C. 1 declares that the National Park Service shall promote and regulate the use of the Federal areas known as National Parks, monuments and reservations by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of parks,

monuments and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the national and historic objects and the wildlife therein and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

FS: Economy Act of June 30, 1932 (31 USC 1585).
Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1991, Public Law 101-512.
TWRA: T.C.A. 70-1-301 and T.C.A 70-1-302.

This GA in no way preempts or nullifies the existing MOU between FS and TWRA, dated August 8, 1975.

II. STATEMENT OF WORK

Great Smoky Mountains National Park agrees:

1. to humanely capture and transport selected PARK bears to FS/TWRA managed lands. Bears shall not be sold, given or otherwise conveyed into the possession of private individuals, rehabilitators, agencies or others for any purpose unless mutually agreed upon by both the PARK and TWRA.
2. to provide, if possible, an employee at the release area to assist with FS/TWRA bears transferred to the PARK.
3. to provide necessary capture and transfer equipment for bears transferred to FS/TWRA.
4. to conduct a general biological work-up, including ear tags and tattoos, and provide the completed data collection and transfer authorization forms for bears that are transferred to TWRA managed lands.
5. to restrict the use of immobilization chemicals in bears transferred to counties with bear hunting seasons at least 45 days prior to and during the season.
6. to deal with problems associated with relocated nuisance PARK bears at the release site.

Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency agrees:

1. to humanely capture and transport selected TWRA bears, including those on FS land, to the PARK. Bears shall not be sold, given or otherwise conveyed into the possession of private individuals, rehabilitators, agencies or others for any purpose unless mutually agreed upon by both the PARK and TWRA.
2. to provide, if possible, an employee at the release area to assist with PARK bears transferred to FS/TWRA.
3. to provide necessary capture and transfer equipment for bears transferred to the PARK.
4. to conduct a general biological work-up, including ear tags and tattoos (unless directed otherwise by the PARK), and provide the completed data collection and transfer authorization forms for bears that are transferred to the PARK.
5. to provide the PARK and FS an annual summary of bear harvest data including all illegal and legal tag returns, kill site locations, date, sex and body weights and provide the FS an annual summary of bear relocations occurring on FS lands.
6. the PARK and FS can utilize a TWRA authorized black bear rehabilitator.

Cherokee National Forest agrees:

1. to provide FS lands as mutually agreed-upon sites for nuisance bears relocated from PARK or TWRA lands, when other options for treatment have been exhausted. These options may include aversive conditioning, removing trash and food attractants, trapping and releasing on-site, and trapping and releasing off-site. No releases will occur in the vicinity of developed recreation areas.
2. to notify TWRA of significant nuisance bear incidences occurring on FS lands in a timely manner.
3. make reasonable and practical efforts to secure all food-related garbage in a manner that makes it unavailable to bears and other wildlife, which can include installation of bear-proof containers in new

and existing recreation areas and timely pick-up of garbage at developed and dispersed recreation areas.

III. TERMS OF AGREEMENT AND TERMINATION

This general agreement shall continue in full force and effect from date of final signature except that either party may terminate the same upon giving the other party(s) sixty (60) days written notice in advance of said termination.

This agreement in no way restricts the Forest Service or the Cooperators from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals.

Any party(s), in writing, may terminate the agreement in whole, or in part, at any time before the date of expiration.

This agreement is neither a fiscal nor a funds obligation document. Any endeavor involving reimbursement or contribution of funds between the parties to this agreement will be handled in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procedures including those for Government procurement and printing. Such endeavors will be outlined in separate agreements that shall be made in writing by representatives of the parties and shall be independently authorized by appropriate statutory authority. This agreement does not provide such authority. Specifically, this agreement does not establish authority for noncompetitive award to the cooperator of any contract or other agreement. Any contract or agreement for training or other services must fully comply with all applicable requirements for competition.

DURATION OF AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, this agreement is executed as of the last date shown below and expires on 9/30/2005, at which time it will be subject to review, renewal, or expiration.

AMENDMENT

WHEREAS, amendments to the Agreement may be proposed by any party, at any time, and shall become effective upon approval by all parties.

Modifications within the scope of this agreement shall be made by the issuance of a bilaterally executed modification prior to any changes being performed.

IV. KEY OFFICIALS

Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

Mr. Gary Myers
Executive Director
Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
Ellington Agricultural Center
P.O. Box 40747
Nashville, Tennessee 37204
(615) 781-6622

National Park Service

Mr. Philip A. Francis, Jr.
Acting Superintendent
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
107 Park Headquarters Road
Gatlinburg, Tennessee 37738
(865) 436-1201

United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service

Ms. Anne J. Zimmermann
Forest Supervisor
Cherokee National Forest
Supervisors Office
P.O. Box 2010
Cleveland, Tennessee 37320
(423) 476-9700

V. PROPERTY UTILIZATION

Property furnished by the Park or acquired by FS/TWRA to the agreement shall be used and disposed of as set forth in NPS Property Management Regulations.

VI. PRIOR APPROVAL

Not Applicable

VII. REPORTS AND/OR DELIVERABLES

The PARK will provide copies of completed data collection forms as well as transfer authorization forms for bears that are transferred to TWRA. This information will be mailed to:

Mr. Doug Scott
Wildlife Biologist
Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
6032 W. Andrew Johnson Highway
Talbott, Tennessee 37877

Ms. Laura Mitchell
Forest Wildlife Biologist
Cherokee National Forest
Supervisors Office
P.O. Box 2010
Cleveland, Tennessee 37320

TWRA provide will provide copies of completed data collection forms as well as transfer authorization forms for bears that are transferred to the PARK. TWRA will also provide the PARK and FS an annual summary of bear harvest data including all illegal and legal tag returns, kill site locations, date, sex and body weights and provide the FS an annual summary of bear relocations occurring on FS lands. This information will be mailed to:

Mr. Kim DeLozier
Supervisory Wildlife Biologist
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
107 Park Headquarters Road
Gatlinburg, Tennessee 37738

Ms. Laura Mitchell
Forest Wildlife Biologist
Cherokee National Forest
Supervisors Office
P.O. Box 2010
Cleveland, Tennessee 37320

VIII. STANDARD CLAUSES

Civil Rights

During the performance of this agreement, the participants agree to abide by the terms USDI-Civil Rights Assurance Certification, nondiscrimination and will not discriminate against any person because of race, color, religion, sex or national origin. The participants will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed without regard to their race, color, religion, sex or national origin.

Officials Not to Benefit

No member or delegate to Congress, or resident Commissioner, shall be admitted to any share or part of this agreement, or to any benefit that may arise therefrom, but this provision will not be construed to this agreement if made with a corporation for its general benefit.

Promotions

TWRA shall not publicize, or otherwise circulate, promotional material (such as advertisements, sales brochures, press releases, speeches, still and motion pictures, articles, manuscripts or other publications) which state or implies Governmental, Departmental, bureau or Government employee endorsement of a product, service, or position which the TWRA represents. No release of information relating to this agreement may state or imply that the Government approves of the TWRA work product, or considers the TWRA's work product to be superior to other products or services.

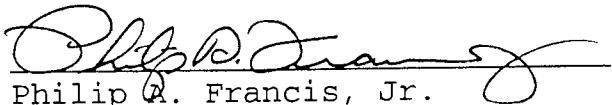
Public Information Release

TWRA must obtain prior Government approval from the PARK for any public information releases which refer to the Department of the Interior, any bureau, park unit, or employee, or this agreement. The specific text, layout, photographs, etc., of the proposed release must be submitted with the request for approval.

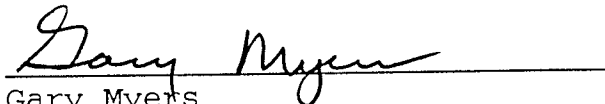
IX. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES

IN WITNESS HEREOF, the parties hereto have signed their names and executed this General Agreement.

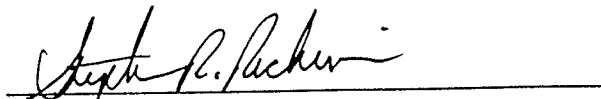
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE:


Philip A. Francis, Jr.
Acting Superintendent
Great Smoky Mountains National Park
Date October 2, 2000

STATE OF TENNESSEE:


Gary Myers
Executive Director
Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
Date 9-25-00

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOREST SERVICE:


Anne J. Zimmermann
Forest Supervisor
Cherokee National Forest
Date 8/21/00

APPENDIX C

BEAR MANAGEMENT REPORT
GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

1 DATE _____ 2 TIME OF INCIDENT _____ 3 DISTRICT _____
4 LOCATION _____ 5 NAME _____
6 ADDRESS _____ 7 TELEPHONE _____

8 VISITOR ACTIVITY

- a. None
- b. Camping (Frontcountry)
- c. Camping (Backcountry)
- d. Picnicking
- e. Day Hiker
- f. Motorist/Overlook/Rdsd
- g. Other _____

9 PERSONAL INJURY

- a. No
- b. Yes (describe in #19)

10 PROPERTY DAMAGE

(property includes food)

- a. No
 - b. Yes
- describe: _____

PROPERTY VALUE\$ _____

11 BEAR GOT FOOD/GARBAGE

- a. Unknown
- b. No
- c. No but attempted (describe in #19)
- d. Yes (describe in #19)

12 HOW CLOSE DID BEAR APPROACH?

(complete all that apply)

- a. People: _____ yards
- b. Shelter/Tent: _____ yds
- c. Vehicle/Camper: _____ yds
- d. Picnic Table: _____ yds
- e. Building: _____ yds
- f. Other: _____ yds

13 BEAR IDENTIFICATION

- a. Unknown
 - b. No Ear Tags
 - c. Ear Tags: Rt _____ Lt _____
 - d. Other Markings: _____
- describe: _____

14 AGE

- a. Unknown
- b. Cub
- c. Subadult
- d. Adult

15 SEX

- a. Unknown
- b. Male
- c. Female

16 SIZE

- a. Unknown
 - b. Small
 - c. Medium
 - d. Large
- Est. Weight: _____ pounds

17 ASSOCIATED BEARS

- a. None
- b. Cubs: No _____
- c. Yearlings: No _____
- d. Other bears _____

18 MANAGEMENT ACTION

- a. None
- b. Bear Jam (Break Up)
- c. Capture
- d. Attempted Capture
- e. Monitoring
- f. Area Closure/Opening
- g. Post/Remove Warnings
- h. Aversive Conditioning
- i. Other _____

19 DETAILS OF INCIDENT, OBSERVATION, "Other":

PLEASE CONTINUE ON BACK OF REPORT IF MORE ROOM IS NEEDED

20 Has Communications Been Notified Y or N

Date _____ Time _____ Initials _____

21 Faxed to RM? Y or N

RM Fax # (865)430-0341 Date _____

22. Reported By _____

APPENDIX D

BLACK BEAR BIOLOGICAL DATA SHEET

Recorder _____

Bear No. _____

Bear Name _____

CAPTURE INFO:

Date _____ Time _____ Method _____ Recapture? (circle) Yes No

Capture location _____ Release Location _____

Rel. time _____ Rel. date _____ Rel. by: NPS _____ UT _____ TWRA _____ NCWRC _____

Descrip. of snare capture _____ Capture injury _____

Comments: _____

IMMOBILIZATION: (Record dosage amount in cc's for Rompun/Ketaset.)

<u>Drug</u>	<u>Dosage</u>	<u>Inject. pt.</u>	<u>Latency</u>	<u>Delivery Method</u>	<u>Comments</u>
-------------	---------------	--------------------	----------------	------------------------	-----------------

Total drug used _____

MEASUREMENTS:

Sex _____ Weight _____ Total length _____ Rectal temperature _____

Height at shoulder _____ Head width _____ Head length _____ Ear length _____

Head circum. _____ Chest circum. _____ Neck circum. _____ Forearm circum. _____

Hind pad length _____ width _____ Front pad length _____ width _____

CONDITION:

Teeth: Losses _____ Wear (light, medium, heavy) _____

Dental abnormalities _____ Ectopara. _____

Female: Swollen genit. _____ Color genit. _____ Lact. teats _____ No. cubs _____

Male: Test. condition _____

Gen. condition: Body fat (poor, fair, good) _____ Pelage _____

Injuries _____

Family group size _____

Comments: _____

MARKING:

Tattoo no.: New _____ Location _____ Previous _____ Location _____

Ear tags: Previous _____ R _____

New _____ R _____

Radiocollar: Freq. _____ Color _____ No. _____

Natural markings: Chest blaze _____ Prominent scars _____

Other _____

SAMPLES COLLECTED:

Tooth _____ Blood _____ Hair _____ Scat _____ Ectopara. _____

Other _____

GENERAL COMMENTS: (Use reverse side if necessary.)